

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are amended.

Claims 18 and 19 are new.

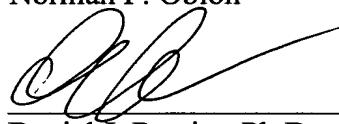
Support for all amended and new Claims is found in original Claims 1-17.

Upon entry of the amendment, Claims 1-19 will be active.

No new matter is believed to have been added. An action on the merits and allowance of the claims is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.  
Norman F. Oblon



---

Daniel J. Pereira, Ph.D.  
Registration No. 45,518

Customer Number  
**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 06/04)  
I:\ATTY\CJA\274086US0PCT.PR.DOC